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## INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED AND DISSEMINATED BY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY

Costa Rica

SUBJECT

Prediction of Change in Government

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PLACE ACQUIRED (By source)

DATE OF INFORMATION (Date or dates, on or between which, events or conditions described in report existed)

early December 1954

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SOURCE

1. When I was in Costa Rica in early December 1954, I had the opportunity of discussing the political situation there with a US national who is the manager and owner of a company which operates a quick freeze tuna fish base and plant at Puntarenas. He has been a resident of Costa Rica for many years and I consider him an exceedingly astute individual.
2. In response to my inquiry as to the political situation, he stated that he confidently expects that President Jose Figueres will not be able to continue in office to the end of his term. He has lost most of the support of the Costa Ricans, mainly because he has become so cocky since he went into office. His major accomplishments seem to be the raising of the wages of federal employees and increasing taxes to support these raises. This, of course, hasn't made the rest of the populace very happy and the general feeling, according to my informant, is that so much pressure will be brought to bear upon Figueres in the next year or two that he will have to step out. Although the feud between Figueres and Nicaragua's Anastasio Somoza Garcia is well-known and very bitter, my informant feels that Nicaraguan pressure will play only a minor role in the dislodgment of Figueres.
3. Figueres' predecessor, Otilio Ulate Blanco, is enormously popular, but at the present time /December 1954/, he is taking absolutely no direct interest in politics. He probably considers this a wise course of action as he no doubt assumes that he would be recalled to power in the event of Figueres' ouster. Rafael Angel Calderon Guardia is popular, but he is a political agitator and probably could not unite all factions.

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